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ever and wherever the campaign is to be launched, or special adaptation or adjustment of program is to be secured, a thorough survey should be made by a small, interested, tactful, and competent group of citizens, and the plan of action determined by the first-hand, unbiased information that the survey supplies.

Only in this comprehensive and systematic way can assurance be given of the solution of the complex problem of combating the venereal diseases of to-day and promoting sex hygiene as the chief preventive measures now and the guarantee of security to posterity.

NARCOTIC DRUGS—INTERPRETATION OF HARRISON ACT.

COURT DECIDES PHYSICIAN WHO GIVES PRESCRIPTION DOES NOT SELL THE DRUG.

The issuance of a prescription for narcotic drugs by a physician, not "in the course of his professional practice only," without participating in the sale by the druggist, is not a sale which is prohibited by the Harrison Act, according to a decision¹ of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, fourth circuit.

The defendant, a physician, issued prescriptions for narcotic drugs to addicts to keep them supplied and not for the purpose of effecting a cure. He was indicted for unlawfully dispensing, distributing, and selling morphine sulphate. It was charged that the prescriptions were not issued "in the course of his professional practice only" and that there were no written orders on the prescribed form. The prescriptions were filled by different druggists, and, it being shown that there was no participation by the defendant in the different sales made by the druggists, the court held that the mere issuance of the prescriptions by the defendant was not a sale or such dispensing or distribution as amounts to a sale. The court said:

Resolving all conflicting testimony against the defendant, no direct sale, barter, exchange, or gift, and no dispensing or distribution that would denote participation in a sale, barter, exchange, or gift by him, was proved. He registered and paid the tax. Afterwards he gave prescriptions for morphine and cocaine to the persons named in the indictment, who were drug addicts, calling for such quantities of the drugs as to indicate that he was merely gratifying the craving of the addicts and that he was not seeking to cure them of the habit. The drugs were not furnished by the defendant. On the contrary, the prescriptions were carried by the recipients to different registered druggists and by them filled. There was no evidence that defendant was interested in the business of any of the druggists, or had any arrangement to share the profits of the sales with them, or that he was agent for any druggist, or that he even knew where the prescriptions were to be carried. What the statute forbids is sale, barter, exchange, or gift, including such distribution and dispensing by a physician, not in the course of his practice, as would amount to participation in a sale, barter, exchange, or gift. The mere issuance of a prescription by a physician, to be filled by any druggist, without participation by the physician in the sale made under it, would not be a sale as charged in the indictment, or such distribution or dispensing as amounts to a sale.

¹ Foreman v. United States, 255 Fed. 621.

In this connection reference is made to the case of *United States v. Jin Fuey Moy*, an abstract of which was published in the Public Health Reports, April 4, 1919, page 688, in which case the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania decided that the giving of such a prescription was a violation of the provisions of the Harrison Act.

DEATHS DURING WEEK ENDED JULY 5, 1919, IN CITIES.

From the "Weekly Health Index," July 8, 1919, issued by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

Deaths from all causes in certain large cities of the United States during the week ended July 5, 1919, infant mortality (per cent), annual death rates, and comparison with corresponding week of preceding years.

City.	Population July 1, 1918, estimated.	Week ended July 5, 1919.		Average annual death rate per 1,000. ³	Per cent of deaths under 1 year.	
		Total deaths.	Death rate. ¹		Week ended July 5, 1919.	Previous year or years. ²
Atlanta.....	201,732	42	10.9	C 17.8	16.7	C 10.1
Baltimore.....	369,981	201	15.6	A 14.9	27.9	A 22.1
Boston.....	785,245	155	10.3	A 13.5	13.5	A 15.4
Buffalo.....	473,229	107	11.8	C 14.4	19.6	C 16.8
Cambridge.....	111,432	28	13.1	A 10.1	7.1	A 19.0
Chicago.....	2,596,681	519	10.4	A 12.7	16.0	A 17.6
Cincinnati.....	418,022	94	11.7	C 10.1	8.5	C 6.2
Cleveland.....	810,306	130	8.4	C 8.9	15.4	C 17.8
Columbus.....	225,296	51	11.8	C 14.6	7.8	C 7.9
Dayton.....	130,655	23	9.2	C 10.8	8.7	C 7.4
Denver.....		60			6.7	
Fall River.....	128,392	28	11.4	C 10.6	21.4	C 34.6
Grand Rapids.....	135,450	24	9.2	C 11.2	4.2	C 10.3
Indianapolis.....	290,389	79	14.2	C 11.2	15.2	C 16.1
Jersey City.....	318,770	82	13.4	C 13.1	31.7	C 20.0
Kansas City.....	313,785	69	11.5	C 14.1	13.0	C 9.4
Los Angeles.....	568,495	103	9.4	A 11.8	5.8	A 10.3
Louisville.....	242,707	73	15.7	C 11.2	11.0	C 9.6
Lowell.....	109,081	22	10.5	A 15.1	18.2	A 25.6
Memphis.....	154,759	52	17.5	C 31.7	26.9	C 14.9
Milwaukee.....	453,481	94	10.8	A 11.5	20.2	A 14.4
Minneapolis.....	383,442	62	8.4	C 9.1	9.7	C 23.9
Nashville.....	119,215	32	14.0	C 24.5	18.8	C 16.1
Newark.....	428,684	97	11.8	C 11.3	16.5	C 22.6
New Haven.....	154,865	43	14.5	C 9.4	20.9	C 21.4
New Orleans.....	382,273	98	13.4	A 17.9	10.2	A 10.2
New York.....	5,215,879	1,090	10.9	C 11.4	11.8	C 13.9
Oakland.....	214,206	23	5.6	A 9.1	13.0	A 8.4
Omaha.....	180,264	21	6.1	C 11.0	14.3	C 10.5
Philadelphia.....	1,761,371	360	10.7	A 11.9	12.8	A 16.2
Pittsburgh.....	593,303	136	12.0	C 13.6	20.6	C 18.7
Portland, Oreg.....		55			9.1	C 2.3
Providence.....	263,613	53	10.5	C 12.9	22.6	C 16.9
Richmond.....	160,719	55	17.8	C 24.0	29.1	C 8.1
Rochester.....	264,856	50	9.8	C 10.4	6.0	C 11.3
St. Paul.....	257,689	44	8.9	C 8.5	11.4	C 16.7
San Francisco.....	478,530	129	14.1	C 11.9	5.4	C 6.4
Spokane.....		22			4.5	C 12.5
Syracuse.....	161,404	37	12.0	C 18.8	21.6	C 26.5
Toledo.....	262,234	50	9.9	A 12.3	14.0	A 11.6
Washington, D. C.....	401,681	136	17.7	A 14.3	13.2	A 11.8
Worcester.....	173,650	59	17.7	C 11.1	11.9	C 27.0

¹ Annual rates per 1,000 estimated population.

² "A" indicates data for the corresponding week of the years 1913 to 1917, inclusive. "C" indicates data for the corresponding week of the year 1918.

³ Population estimated as of July 1, 1919.

⁴ Data are based on statistics of 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Summary of information received by telegraph from industrial insurance companies for week ended July 5, 1919.

Policies in force.....	40,446,862
Number of death claims.....	5,401
Number of death claims per 1,000 policies in force, annual rate.....	7.0